What's new at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc. View this email in your browser

Newsletter #128:

What's New at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

I am a little over a week out from leaving for Europe for the Fall auctions. Last week I discussed Roma and NAC. This week I would like to focus a bit more on G&M and Künker. There are also a few other auction houses that will conduct sales that I want to mention. Remember that if you want to use my representation services you should contact me sooner rather than later. The optimal way is to let me know before viewing. This way I can give you the best possible service by viewing your coins of interest in hand and giving detailed viewing notes. I also can advise on appropriate levels for success. If you do happen to contact me later do not worry, I'm still happy to help. I just would like to see my customers get the best service as possible.

Künker 326-329 (Auctions from Oct 7-11)

As is typical with their Fall auctions, Künker has several large live auctions over the course of a week. The auctions take place at the lovely Steigenberger Hotel Remarque in Osnabrück, just around the corner from their head office. While Osnabrück can be a little difficult to travel to, I've found that the auctions are among the most comfortable and pleasant of any I have attended. The reason is simply this. Künker does not do an online component so there is no internet bidding. Yes, it is a bummer for those that want to bid in their pajamas in the comfort of their home. That said, the auctions typically run in a reasonably fast fashion and for those of us that spend the money to get out there it makes it worthwhile. Suddenly all the last minute shoppers are not an issue. I also respect the fact that Künker doesn't change their model. They do e-live auctions now but their mainstay sales continue to be without online bidding.

Auction 326 is their ancient component and features the collection of Dr. W. R. The collection focuses on Northern Greece, Crete and the Cyclades. Later lots are from the Phoibos collection and finally a collection of coins from the Northern Germany "friend of antiques". While the overall catalog is not as glitzy as the NAC auction it makes up for it by a large selection of reasonably estimated attractive coins. Two particularly

stunning and noteworthy lots are a necklace and bracelet composed of roman gold aurei. This is not just any necklace however. It was presumably selected and commissioned by Napoleon Bonaparte for his beloved sister Pauline. The catalog shows a 1966 newspaper clipping of the lovely Nicolette Schulman, the daughter of the formidable Dutch numismatist Jacques Schulman, coyly smiling and wearing the striking jewelry.

The following days of auctions feature world coins both silver and gold. There is also a catalog dedicated solely to German gold coinage. Finally the last catalog is of military and honorable medals from around the world.

I've not yet gotten the Künker catalogs but I urge you to download their online catalog if you want to page through the offerings. You can find a link here:

https://www.kuenker.de/de/auktionen/auktions-uebersicht/326-329

Gorny & Mosch 265-267 (Oct 14-18)

The first three days of G&M consist of live auctions in their Munich showroom. The two final days are in a e-auction format. I recently received a small group of the G&M 265 catalogs. I was surprised to see their normally white covered catalogs were now dark. The excitement from the different looking cover led me to a wonderful offering of coins. I will be viewing the G&M auction for a few days prior to the Künker auctions and then bidding from my home as I return to the U.S. on October 11.

Along with a really beautiful selection of Greek coins, there are several pages of stunning Roman provincial bronzes which I have always felt have been absolutely undervalued. There are also a few pages of Jewish revolt coinage that is notable.

I have a few catalogs of this auction so please get in touch soon should you want one.

Other auctions happening

I've only mentioned four auctions in the last few newsletters but there are several others that I will sadly be missing. If I could somehow be in two places at once....

Paul-Francis Jacquier 46-47 (Sept 20-21)

The dealer Paul-Francis Jacquier will host two days of auctions in mail bid and online format. Catalog 46 is the second part of the Philippe Gysen collection of antoniniani (253-294 AD). Antoniniani are typically wonderful entry level coinage for burgeoning collectors due to their low cost. Mr. Gysen obviously took great pride in assembling his collection and there are some wonderful well struck examples on offer.

Catalog 47 is a collection of celtic coinage assembled by Ghislain Bouvy. Following the celtic coinage is another group of ancient coins ranging from Greek to Byzantine. At the end of the catalog is a substantial selection of numismatic literature in addition to another part to the BCD duplicates. For those of you that do not know, Jacquier is also an established numismatic book dealer. I've often purchased literature from him at reasonable prices.

Gerhard Hirsch Nachfolger 252-253 (Sept 25-27)

Dr. Francisca Bernheimer, the owner of the long established Hirsch auction house, will conduct several days of auctions starting on the 24th of Sept. The first day is actually Sept 24 and that will be antiquities. From Sept 25-27 there will be ancient and then world coins on offer. On day one of the ancients there are 719 lots and day two 844 lots. Hirsch typically has some nice pedigreed coins offered. Certainly the long history of the auction house helps to attract collections.

Coin of the Week

Justinian II, with Tiberius. second reign, 705-711. Constantinople
AV Solidus, 4.40g (20mm, 6h). δ N IhS ChS [RЄX RЄGNANT]IЧM Draped bust of Christ facing, with cross behind his head, raising his right hand in benediction and holding book of Gospels in his left. Rev. δ N IЧSTINIANЧS ЄT TIbЄRIЧS PP A' Crowned half-length figures of Justinian II, on left, and Tiberius, on the right, both wearing chlamys and holding between them, in their right hands, a cross potent on two steps.

References: DOC 2b. MIB 2b. SB 1415

Grade: Sharp strike and virtually complete. Legend is half off flan on both sides. EF

bz1021

Price: $6,850

Buy Coin

Justinian II was the last of the Heraclian emperors. He reigned from 685-695 after the death of his father, the ruler Constantine IV. Justinian was a man with lavish tastes and high hopes for the empire. He was unpopular with the people, both aristocratic and peasant classes. He raised taxes to support his habit of erecting buildings. He also created discord in religious realms when he clashed with the Roman Catholic church over various observance differences. This prompted the people to proclaim Leontius, a general in the army, as ruler and they ousted Justinian. The soldiers brutally cut his nose off to make certain he would not attempt to rule again. He was exiled to Cherson for 10 years while he planned his re-emergence. In the Spring of 705 with an army of 15,000 Bulgar and Slav horsemen, Justinian took his throne once again. His second reign was even more despotic than the first.

Strangely enough Justinian was the very first emperor to place Jesus Christ on his coinage. The coinage with Christ bear two forms. One is with a western looking Christ, one that the world has come to think of with long straight hair. The other, like this coin, was of an eastern styled Christ, with tight curls.

https://www.shannaschmidt.com/byzantine/justinian-ii-with-tiberius-second-reign-705-711-constantinople?rq=bz1021

If you are interested in this coin please click the link above or email me at shanna@shannaschmidt.com

Until next week!
Shanna

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